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REMARKS

The Office Action of 12/19/2006 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the present remarks is respectfully requested.

The addition of headings to the specification was suggested. As such headings are not required and have in the past been known to affect to scope of protection afforded, Applicant respectfully declines.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 were rejected as being indefinite by reason of the purported indefiniteness of claim 1. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 as presently amended is believed to read on Figure 3 (not Figure 1) of the specification. Claim 1 prior to the present amendment is believed to have read on Figure 3 of the specification as set forth in the Explanatory Markup submitted with the previous amendment. Claim 1 prior to the present amendment is also believed to have read on Figure 1 of the specification, in the following manner, for example:

An integrated circuit comprising a noise source (12b), a sub-circuit (12c), a noise medium (10) capable of transferring noise signals from the noise source (12b) to the sub-circuit (12c), a feedback circuit (15), having an input coupled to the noise medium (10) at an input point on a first side of the sub-circuit (12c) and an output coupled to the noise medium (10) at an output point on a second side of the sub-circuit (12c), the first and second sides being opposite to one another relative to the sub-circuit (12c), the noise source (12b) being coupled to the noise medium on said second side.

Claim 4 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter, which indication is appreciatively acknowledged. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 4, which has been canceled.

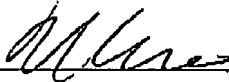
Claim 6 has been written in independent form and is believed to patentably define over the cited reference.

More particularly, Liu a battery of active noise-cancellation circuits. Injecting collected noise back into the source media using negative feedback does indeed suppress the noise locally as described in the paper. A single feedback loop scheme reduces the noise signal locally and it may be expected that within the region surrounded by the respective injection point the noise is reduced as well. However, these methods, although they may be applicable for local noise cancellation, are not effective for canceling noise that has spatially varying strength over a broad region. In practice, due to the heavily doped substrate layer, the coupled substrate noise can reach locations which are far away from the noise sources.

The invention of claim 6 focuses on reducing noise with spatially varying strength over a broad region using multiple non-local feedback circuits while reducing a tendency towards local feedback effects. The invention employs cross-coupled feedback circuits placed apart from each other with differential sensing. The cross-coupling serves to reduce spatial noise while the differential sensing aims at local noise suppression. Liu et. al. do not have such a scheme.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Ure, Reg. 33,089

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